

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 SEOUL 03406 261225Z

ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W

-----261227Z 123293 /44

P 260826Z APR 77

FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3495

S E C R E T SEOUL 3406

NODIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR PINT KS US

SUBJ: PRESIDENT PARK'S POSITION ON HUMAN RIGHTS

REF: (A) SEOUL 3160, (B) SEOUL 3365

1. AS MY CONVERSATIONS WITH FORMER MINISTER KIM CHONG-PIL AND FORMER AMBASSADOR TO US HAM PYONG-CHUN UNDERSCORE, BULK OF ADVISORS AROUND PARK ARE APPARENTLY CONVINCED OF NEED TO MAKE CONCESSIONS ON HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUE WITH TIMING AND MANNER THE ONLY QUESTIONS. LAST EVENING AT STATE DINNER FOR GUATEMALAN VICE PRESIDENT THIS JUDGMENT WAS FURTHER REINFORCED BY CONVERSATIONS WITH TWO SENIOR COLITICAL ADVISORS TO PARK. BOTH WERE CONCERNED ABOUT US VIEWS AND URGED "PATIENCE" ON OUR PART AND HOPE THAT OPPOSITION DISSIDENTS WOULD RELAX THEIR PRESSURES GIVING PARK ROOM TO MOVE, WITHOUT EVEN PERFUNCTORY EFFORT TO JUSTIFY CURRENT LEVEL OF CONTROL AS THEY HAD IN THE PAST.

2. PRESIDENT PARK REMAINS ALMOST ISOLATED AS THE PRINCIPAL HOLDOUT BUT IN THIS AREA THE DECISIONS REST WITH HIM ALONE, OBVIOUSLY. EVEN KCIA DIRECTOR KIM, FOR EXAMPLE, AT OUR REQUEST SOUGHT AND RECOMMENDED VISIT BY OUTSIDE PHYSICIAN ON KIM DAE JUNG BUT WAS TURNED DOWN APPRENTLY BY PARK.

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 SEOUL 03406 261225Z

3. AS I SUGGESTED IN REF B, IT IS NOW TIMELY TO ESCALATE THE PRESSURES ON PARK. ONE STEP I HAVE ALREADY INITIATED IS TO IMPRESS UPON THOSE CLOSE TO HIM THE NEED FOR THEM TO APPROACH PARK DIRECTLY AND URGENTLY, IF PUBLIC PRESSURE TO BE AVOIDED. THIS TACTIC I WILL CONTINUE WITH OTHERS WHO SEEM PREPARED TO CARRY THE FREIGHT.

4. IN ADDITION I ASSUME THAT THE SAME MESSAGE WILL BE IMPARTED TO NEWLY ARRIVED AMBASSADOR KIM YONG-SIK WHOM I BRIEFED FULLY ON OUR PROBLEMS WITH RESPECT TO HUMAN RIGHTS AND TO PRESIDENTIAL ADVISOR KIM KYONG-WON WHO WILL BE IN WASHINGTON THIS WEEK SEEING SENIOR OFFICIALS. FROM MY CONVERSATIONS WITH LATTER PRIOR TO HIS DEPARTURE, I AM CONVINCED KIM WILL, WHILE PROVIDING RATIONALE FOR ROKG ACTION, SEEK AND HOPEFULLY REPORT BACK ACCURATE READING ON US ATTITUDES AND PARTICULARLY CONSEQUENCES OF FAILURE OF KOREAN GOVERNMENT TO MOVE IN VERY NEAR FUTURE ON HUMAN RIGHTS AND RELEASE OF KIM DAE JUNG.

5. FINALLY AT PRESENT JUNCTURE, I RECOMMEND THAT TROOP WITHDRAWAL TALKS BE INITIATED BY VERY SENIOR SPECIAL EMISSARY WHO IS POSSIBLE HAS HAD PAST PERSONAL CONTACTS WITH PARK. I SUGGEST THAT EMISSARY BE IN A POSITION TO REVIEW BREADTH OF US RELATIONSHIP WITH ROKG AND THAT PARK BE SO ADVISED PRIVATELY AT LEAST SEVERAL WEEKS IN ADVANCE OF ANNOUNCEMENT. PARK WILL NOT LOSE SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS MOVE IN TERMS OF HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUE OR PAOBABILITY THAT ANNOUNCEMENT WILL STIMULATE SPECULATION ON US INTENTION TO ELEVATE PRESSURES ON HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUE. BY DELAYING ANNOUNCEMENT WE WILL AFFORD HIM FURTHER OPPORTUNITY TO ACT BEFORE OUR PRESSURE BECOMES MUCH MORE OVERT. I SUGGEST THAT VISIT OF SPECIAL EMISSARY BE SET AS DEADLINE FOR US/ PUBLIC STATEMENT ON KOREAN HUMAN RIGHTS. I WOULD PROPOSE ADDITIONALLY TO MAKE COTERIE OF WELL-DISPOSED ADVISORS TO PRESIDENT PARK AWARE OF OUR PLANS TO SEND SPECIAL EMISSARY, SUGGESTING TO THEM THAT EARLY ACTION ON HUMAN RIGHTS COULD AVERT PUBLIC PRESSURES FLOWING FROM ANNOUNCEMENT OF EMISSARY.

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 SEOUL 03406 261225Z

SNEIDER

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: HUMAN RIGHTS, TROOP REDUCTIONS, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS, CAT-B
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 26-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977SEOUL03406
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: P850070-2734, N770002-0717
Format: TEL
From: SEOUL
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770418/aaaaapej.tel
Line Count: 98
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 22871c9f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NODS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS
Reference: 77 SEOUL 3160, 77 SEOUL 3365
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 16-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2690496
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRESIDENT PARK'S POSITION ON HUMAN RIGHTS
TAGS: PFOR, SHUM, PREL, PINT, PHUM, MARR, KS, US, (PARK CHONG-HUI)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/22871c9f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009